

Message Text

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PAGE 01 HELSIN 02548 181538Z

51

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 EURE-00 SAJ-01 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02

SS-15 RSC-01 ACDA-05 PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-05 NSAE-00

DODE-00 AEC-05 AECE-00 COA-01 DLOS-03 OES-03 NEA-06

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P R 181430Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8147

INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

C O N F I D E N T I A L HELSINKI 2548

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, PFOR, FI, NO

SUBJECT: NORWEGIAN FOREIGN MINISTER FRYDENLUND'S

MEETINGS WITH PRESIDENT KEKKONEN AND

FOREIGN MINISTER KARJALAINEN

REF: HELSINKI 2490; HELSINKI 2492; OSLO 5256; OSLO 5199

1. NORWEGIAN FOREIGN MINISTER FRYDENLUND MADE AN UNOFFICIAL INFORMAL VISIT TO HELSINKI ARRIVING DECEMBER 15 AND DEPARTING FOLLOWING DAY. FRYDENLUND CAME TO FINLAND AT THE INVITATION OF FOREIGN MINISTER KARJALAINEN. DURING HIS VISIT HE HAD TALKS WITH KARJALAINEN, PRESIDENT KEKKONEN, AND PRIME MINISTER SORSA. ORIGINALLY IT HAD BEEN FINNISH INTENTION TO KEEP THE VISIT CONFIDENTIAL. BECAUSE THE FINNS CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 HELSIN 02548 181538Z

WERE AFRAID OF PRESS SPECULATION AFTER A LEAK ON

ARRIVAL DAY, THEY DECIDED TO ISSUE A VERY SHORT COMMUNIQUE STATING WHOM FRYDENLUND SAW BUT NO SPECIFICS ABOUT TALKS. NO PRESS CONFERENCE WAS HELD.

2. NORWEGIAN EMBASSY SECOND SECRETARY HANEVOLD, WITH THE KNOWLEDGE AND APPROVAL OF NORWEGIAN AMBASSADOR, GAVE POLOFF ON CONFIDENTIAL BASIS FOLLOWING ACCOUNT OF FRYDENLUND VISIT. MAIN ORIGINAL FINNISH PURPOSE FOR INVITING FRYDENLUND HAD BEEN TO TAKE UP KEKKONEN PLAN WITH HIM. SINCE NORWEGIANS HAD MADE CLEAR TO FINNS THEIR CONTINUED OPPOSITION TO KEKKONEN PLAN SEVERAL TIMES BETWEEN FRYDENLUND'S INVITATION AND ARRIVAL, MAIN REASON FOR VISIT TURNED OUT TO BE THAT FRYDENLUND HAD MET WITH ALL OTHER NORDIC FORMINS, THAT FINNS WANTED TO GET TO KNOW HIM, AND AS A BALANCING MEASURE TO OFFSET TO SOME DEGREE RECENT SPATE OF VISITS TO FINLAND FROM EAST.

3. NORWEGIANS SAID FRYDENLUND DID NOT TAKE INITIATIVE TO RAISE KEKKONEN PLAN AND LATTER IN FACT TURNED OUT TO BE A VERY MINOR ITEM IN DISCUSSIONS. KARJALAINEN TOOK UP SUBJECT, BUT KEKKONEN DID NOT BROACH IT AT ALL.

4. KARJALAINEN BROUGHT UP KEKKONEN PLAN BUT IT SEEMED TO NORWEGIANS, KEPT A VERY LOW PROFILE ON IT. KARJALAINEN SAID THAT HE HAD OF COURSE BEEN INFORMED OF NORWEGIAN POSITION ON KEKKONEN PLAN ABOUT MONTH AGO WHEN HE MET WITH NORDIC AMBASSADORS AND THAT HE REALIZED THAT THERE WAS NO EVIDENCE FOR ANY CHANGE SINCE THEN. FRYDENLUND SAID THAT THIS WAS VERY TRUE, THAT THERE HAD BEEN NO CHANGE IN TRADITIONAL NORWEGIAN POSITION. FRYDENLUND REITERATED THAT NORTHERN EUROPE WAS ALREADY A NUCLEAR FREE ZONE. HE ALSO SAID THAT SINCE NORWAY WAS ALREADY ENGAGED IN DISCUSSIONS WITH SOVIETS ON NUMBER OF TOPICS, INTRODUCTION OF YET ANOTHER ONE WOULD DEFINITELY NOT BE HELPFUL. FRYDENLUND FURTHER POINTED OUT THAT IT COULD BE DANGEROUS FOR NORWEGIAN SOCIAL DEMOCRATS IF CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 HELSIN 02548 181538Z

IMPRESSION WAS CREATED THAT THEY WERE ABOUT TO CHANGE NORWEGIAN POLICY, BECAUSE THEY WOULD THEN BE ATTACKED BY POLITICAL RIGHT IN NORWAY. FRYDENLUND THEN SUGGESTED THAT PERHAPS NORDICS SHOULD FOCUS ON QUESTION OF PROPER CONTROLS FOR ALL NUCLEAR POWER STATIONS BEING BUILT IN NORTHERN EUROPE. THIS DID NOT SEEM TO INTEREST KARJALAINEN VERY MUCH. KARJALAINEN ASKED FRYDENLUND IF

NORWEGIANS KNEW WHETHER US AND USSR HAD DISCUSSED KEKKONEN PLAN. FRYDENLUND SAID HE HAD NO INDICATION THAT THIS WAS THE CASE. KARJALAINEN SAID THAT FINNS WOULD CONTINUE TO KEEP KEKKONEN PLAN ALIVE, BUT LEFT IMPRESSION THAT THEY WOULD DO IT IN A LOW KEY AND WOULD PROBABLY CONCENTRATE FOR TIME BEING ON UN-APPROVED CCD GENERAL STUDY OF NFZ'S.

5. FRYDENLUND AND KARJALAINEN HAD A FAIRLY LENGTHY DISCUSSION ON VARIOUS SUBJECTS THAT NORWEGIANS AND SOVIETS HAVE BEEN TALKING ABOUT RECENTLY, SUCH AS BARENTS SEA, SPITSBEFGEN, FISHERY LIMITS, ETC. KARJALAINEN WAS VERY INTERESTED IN HOW THE NORWEGIAN-SOVIET TALKS WERE GOING.

6 THEY ALSO DISCUSSED SUNDRY TOPICS SUCH AS MIDDLE EAST, ABOUT WHICH BOTH WERE WORRIED; IMPROVEMENT OF SUPER-POWER RELATIONS, WHICH BOTH WERE IN FAVOR OF; RECENT NATO FOREIGN MINISTERS' MEETING, ON WHICH FRYDENLUND BRIEFED KARJALAINEN; AND, OF COURSE, CSCE. KARJALAINEN REITERATED FINNS WERE READY TO HOST CSCE STAGE III AT ANY TIME BUT, IF THEY HAD THEIR DRUTHERS, WOULD PREFER IT NOT TO TAKE PLACE DURING JULY OR AUGUST. KARJALAINEN WAS HAPPY ABOUT WHAT HE CONSIDERED TO BE FRENCH ENDORSEMENT OF STAGE III ON HIGHEST LEVEL. HE TOLD FRYDENLUND THAT FOREIGN MINISTRY STATE SECRETARIES OF CSCE NEUTRAL PARTICIPANTS WOULD BE MEETING IN GENEVA ON DECEMBER 18 IN ORDER TO SEE IF THERE WERE ANYTHING USEFUL THAT NEUTRALS COULD COME UP WITH IN WAY OF COMPROMISE PROPOSALS THAT COULD BREAK SOME REMAINING LOGJAM.

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 04 HELSIN 02548 181538Z

7. AS MENTIONED KEKKONEN HIMSELF DID NOT TAKE UP KEKKONEN PLAN WITH FRYDENLUND. THE TWO HAD A GENERAL TOUR D'HORIZON, TALKED ABOUT NORWEGIAN-SOVIET DISCUSSIONS, RECENT NORWEGIAN GOVERNMENT "CRISIS", AND, WHAT KEKKONEN TERMED AS A CRISIS OF PARLIAMENTARISM. KEKKONEN TOLD FRYDENLUND THAT HE HOPED THAT US WOULD CONTINUE TO SUPPORT DETENTE. FRYDENLUND INFORMED KEKKONEN THAT AT RECENT NATO MEETING SECRETARY KISSENGER HAD SAID THAT "THERE IS NO ALTERNATIVE TO DETENTE". KEKKONEN ALSO SAID THAT FINNS FOR SOME TIME HAD EXCELLENT RELATIONS WITH SOVIETS AND VERY GOOD RELATIONS WITH US, AND THAT RELATIONS WITH WASHINGTON WERE ACTUALLY BETTER THAN WITH SOME WEST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES. KEKKONEN SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED TO FRYDENLUND

THAT FINNS HAD RECEIVED MUCH MORE UNDERSTANDING
FROM WASHINGTON THAN FROM, FOR EXAMPLE, BONN.
FRYDENLUND SAID THAT NORWEGIAN RELATIONS WITH THE
SUPERPOWERS WERE REVERSED, EXCELLENT RELATIONS WITH
US AND GOOD RELATIONS WITH SOVIET UNION.

8. FRYDENLUND WENT FROM HIS MEETING WITH KEKKONEN
TO SEE PRIME MINISTER SORSA. KEKKONEN SEEMED A
LITTLE UNHAPPY ABOUT THIS, SINCE HE HAD NOT YET
BEEN BRIEFED BY SORSA ON RECENT SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC
PARTY DELEGATION TRIP TO USSR, FROM WHICH SORSA
HAD JUST RETURNED. FRYDENLUND'S MEETING WITH
SORSA WAS A PARTY-TO-PARTY MEETING WITHOUT ANY
PARTICIPATION FROM NORWEGIAN EMBASSY.
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